

Developmental Disabilities Council

Reading Cover Page

Date: July 24, 2006

Meeting: Public Policy Committee

Reading Number: 06-P5

Issue: The Waiting Game Campaign

Included in this Reading:

The latest draft of the Waiting Game DD System Reform and Budget Proposal

Background/Summary:

Advocates have worked through the interim to develop concepts and budget figures for a winning campaign to stabilize the DD system.

Action:

Discuss and VOTE on support of the concepts and the campaign.

If there are any questions, please contact Donna Patrick at 1-800-634-4473 or donnap@cted.wa.gov

Winning the Waiting Game
Beginning to Build a Budget Proposal for 07-09
Draft 2: August 22, 2006

What should the DD System look like?

"Disability is a natural part of the human experience that does not diminish the right of individuals with developmental disabilities to live independently, to exert control and choice over their own lives and to fully participate in and contribute to their communities..." (Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act)

This statement is the core tenet of disability policy and is found at the heart many federal laws on disability issues. It also sets a fundamental vision that can guide us as we move forward in creating or recreating the services and supports needed by individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

The components of the systems and supports for individuals with developmental disabilities in Washington State should reflect the components that anyone would want in his or her life.

Building on the basic tenet of disability policy, any system of support should lead a person with a developmental disability to live a productive life, a life integrated and included in all aspects of community, and a life of independence.

For most Washingtonians a productive life is obtained through employment and work. Most people with developmental disabilities want to work and can work given the necessary supports and services to do so. A prime time to capitalize on this is to assure that every student with a developmental disability leaving school does so with a job or a plan to enter post secondary education/vocational technical training that will lead to a job.

For most Washingtonians a life integrated and included in their local community means having a home and access to community services and activities. Most people with developmental disabilities want to live in their local communities, to live independently and to take advantage of community activities. Most families who have sons and daughters with developmental disabilities desire to support their children at home, but may need the in home supports and services to do so.

For most Washingtonians a life of independence is a life over which they have control of their choices, a life lived without reliance upon systems of government for total support. Most people with developmental disabilities desire to be free to

choose the life they lead. Self-determination is key to the Americans way of life and non-the-less so people with developmental disabilities.

So the components of a DD system of services and supports are:

- Employment Services to help people get and hold a job
- Residential Services to assist a person a live in a local community
- Family Support Services to assist families in the support of their sons and daughters
- Adequate safety nets in local communities to address crisis
- Adequately paid work force to staff the programs state and federal dollars buy
- Case management infrastructure and quality assurance mechanisms to support the system

The Waiting Lists; The Waiting Game

We have documented the number of clients of the Division of Developmental Disabilities who are unserved and waiting for services. The Waiting Game book contains 66 stories of people who are waiting for services; the voices and stories behind the numbers.

(chart from the book)

In March 2006, advocates and provider met to design the basic shape of key budget packages to begin to address this issue. While a multi-year commitment is needed to these issues, the following proposals are a starting point.

Admittedly, they may not move fast enough for some, especially if you are one of the people waiting. They may be too overwhelming for some, especially in these times of tight budgets. The basic question is if not now when?

Winning the Waiting Game

The First Step: Budget Proposals for 07-09

Employment

Graduates from School

Include funding for 80% of the graduates (1080 individuals)

Total cost: \$9,720,000

Employment for Others Already out of School

Include funding for 400 individuals who are/have been out of school and need employment.

Total cost: \$3,600,000

Jobs at 21

A budget proviso for funding to be competitively awarded to fund several pilot projects for School Districts, DVR, DDD to work collaboratively so that all DDD clients leaving school during the 09-11 biennium do so with a job.

Total cost: \$2,000,000

Residential Supports and Services

Core Waiver Supports

Include funding for an additional 130 individuals with priority given to individuals 40+ whose parents can no longer provide supports, then making funding available to others seeking out of family home residential options.

Total cost: \$7,020,000

Companion Homes

Expand the number of companion homes by 100 homes at an average rate of \$ 130 a day, including \$100,000 for capacity building and technical assistance.

Total cost: \$4,845,000

Community Crisis Respite Models

Include funding to establish and/or pilot community crisis respite models. This proposal will fund 96 crisis respite beds with 16 allocated per DSHS region with 8 for children and 8 for adults. The average daily rate of \$220 was used.

Total Cost: \$8,760,000

Family Support

New funding is added to the Family Support Program to serve in additional 2,200 families of which funding for 200 is available at the highest level/crisis.

Total cost: \$9,380,000

With the proviso that DSHS maximize the use of Medicaid funding and as families/clients who receive this funding are transitioned to the new DDD Family Support Program the cost of serving the same family/individual in the new program shall not be exceed these costs.

Behavior Supports and Intervention under MPC

Funding is available to provide behavior management, supports and intervention as a service for those eligible for MPC.

Total cost:

Program Improvements and Oversight

DD Ombudsman

Develop legislation and secure funding to create a DD Ombudsman program as a way to assure quality services/supports and oversight of DD program in Washington State.

Total cost: \$1,150,074

Legal Services for Those in the Community Protection Program

Funding is provided to contract for legal services an individual served in the DDD Community Protection Program can use.

Total Cost: \$500,000

Case Managers and Quality Assurance

Provide xxx case resource managers/staff to support the budget packages above.

Total Cost:

Total Budget Proposal Identified Thus Far: \$

Residential Provider Wages

Include funding to bring residential providers to 68% parity with state workers doing the same tasks.

Total cost: \$32,503,000